

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY368255
Inspection date	19/05/2009
Inspector	Mauvene Burke
Type of setting	Childminder

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the childminding

The childminder has been registered since 2008 and co-works with another childminder from her premises. She lives with her husband and two young children. They are located in a ground floor flat in Tulse Hill, which is within the London borough of Lambeth.

Children have access to the lounge, play room, bathroom and younger children's bedroom. The garden is not used, but the childminder regularly uses local parks. The childminder is registered to care for three children on the Early Years Register. She is also registered on the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. There is currently one child on roll in the early years age range, but this child was not present at the time that the inspection was carried out.

The childminder attends the local parent/toddler group and local childminding groups. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. The childminder demonstrates a lack of understanding and knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage, in particular, the learning and development requirements. This restricts the learning opportunities for children and hinders their progress. Although the childminder is aware of some of her weaknesses, she has not taken many steps to improve her practices. Her understanding of what inclusive practice is and what it means for individual children is also limited, and areas for improvement have not been successfully identified. Partnership with parents is satisfactory but they receive little information about her setting. There are satisfactory arrangements in place to ensure that children's health and safety is safeguarded.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure a procedure is in place to follow in the event of a complaint being made (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 30/06/2009
- provide information relating to lost and uncollected children, equal opportunities and child protection with parents (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 30/06/2009
- complete an appropriate paediatric first aid course (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also 01/07/2009

applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register)

- develop knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how to put the requirements into practice (Qualifications, training, knowledge and skills) 30/06/2009
- maintain public liability insurance (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register) 30/06/2009

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop the partnership with parents to ensure that they are involved in their children's learning
- improve the way observational assessments of children are made in order to identify the next steps in their learning and ensure these are clearly linked to the areas of development

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is not competent in her knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and so consequently cannot ensure the safe and efficient management of children in her care. For example, she has limited knowledge of the requirement regarding responding to complaints and has not familiarised herself with the Local Safeguarding Children Board policy. She shares very little information with parents of minded children with regards to her setting, for example, her equal opportunities policy and the procedures she would follow if a child was lost or not collected. In addition to this, she has failed to maintain her public liability insurance; this is a requirement of registration. Nonetheless, she ensures that a risk assessment of the premises is carried out and takes the necessary steps to ensure that children can safely evacuate the premises in an emergency.

The childminder has not made use of self-evaluation and so no steps to promote or improve her provision for children are yet in place. She has not kept up to date with changes in the early years sector and, as a result, does not strive to provide high quality care and education through continuous improvement. For example, she has not met actions set at her last inspection, in particular the requirement to complete a first aid course.

Parents and carers are offered basic information regarding the childminder's practice and she ensures that she informs parents of their child's day, keeping a record of this in a diary. However, lack of knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals means that she cannot confidently support children's learning and development in all areas. Consequently, parents receive poor information regarding their children's achievements and progress.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a poor understanding of the welfare requirements. She does not have procedures to cover many of the aspects of welfare. The majority of the safety hazards are minimised satisfactorily and risk assessments are carried out. The home is kept clean and well maintained so that children can play freely and safe from harm. The childminder organises her resources in a way which allows children easy access to them; these are mainly stored in low level see-through containers. There is a satisfactory range of resources which is appropriate for the children for whom the childminder is registered for.

Observations, assessments and planning are weak. Although the childminder has started to note children's daily routines, these do not show how the children are progressing towards the early learning goals.

The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of the importance of helping children to be healthy, through the use of procedures and routines such as ensuring that children wash their hands before eating and through providing them with a healthy diet. She demonstrates how she helps children in her care to be safe. The childminder demonstrates little awareness of diversity issues. Resources promoting diversity are limited and do not cover all areas of diversity, such as religion and disability, therefore, children will not have opportunities to develop their awareness and understanding of differences and some children may feel excluded in this setting.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	4

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

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| • take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) | 01/07/2009 |
| • keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children (Arrangements for safeguarding children) | 30/06/2009 |
| • ensure that there is a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints (Procedures for dealing with complaints) | 30/06/2009 |